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FOUNDATION GRANTS
FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS .

by
Donald L. Nelson and
Jayne T. MacLean
Joint Planning and Evaluation
Staff Paper Series Number 80-PPS-09
November 1980

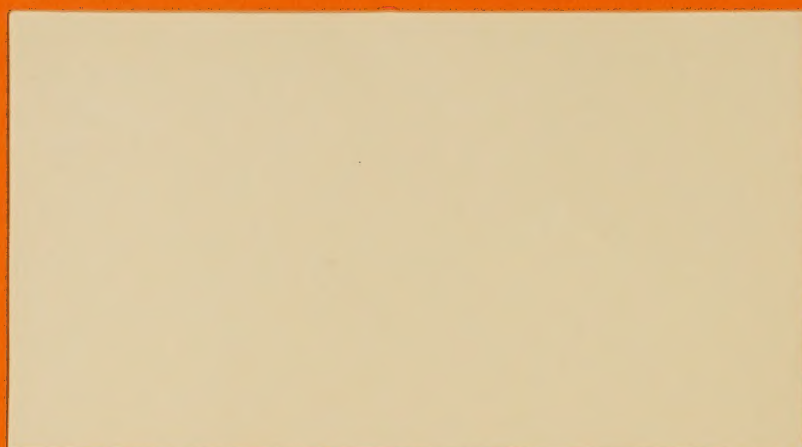
Joint Planning and Evaluation Staff Paper

United States Department of Agriculture
Science and Education Administration
Washington, D.C. 20250

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The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Science and Education Administration or the United States Department of Agriculture.

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Private foundations have contributed nearly \$8 million to domestic rural development (RD) efforts through research or educational grants during the past nine years (1972-80). The most contributed in any one year was in 1976, nearly \$2.5 million. The biggest donor has been the W. K. Kellogg Foundation (\$3,392,220), followed by the Ford Foundation (\$2,197,500). Washington State University received more assistance from foundations than any other recipient--\$2,015,486--for its Kellogg-funded project to expand public services in rural areas. Mississippi Action for Community Education received \$1,865,250 from various donors for various projects, principally in the Mississippi Delta.

While foundations were helping domestic groups carry out RD research or education (R/E) programs, they were funding foreign projects in the amount of nearly \$13 million. The leading donors for foreign projects have been Ford, the Rockefeller Foundation and Kellogg, with Canada, Brazil, Bangladesh, India and Indonesia the countries benefiting most in dollar terms.

For comparison purposes, expenditures by the Cooperative Extension Service system totalled approximately \$62,744,000 and spending by the Cooperative State Research system was about \$15,224,000 for community and rural development in FY 1979.^{1/}

Rationale

Interest in the support provided to RD R/E programs by private foundations was triggered by a request to the senior author by the National Agricultural Research and Extension Users Advisory Board.^{2/} The Board asked for an "inventory of government-wide RD programs, including those of State systems," for its study. This resulted in some

fairly precise estimates for expenditures by Cooperative Extension and Research and some fairly gross estimates for spending by other sectors-- other USDA, other government and nongovernment. However, it was thought that some rather precise figures for spending in the nongovernment sector by private foundations could be gathered by searching the computerized Foundation Grants Index data base.

Methods

The junior author undertook the search task. An initial broad search of an automated data base using the term "community and rural development" yielded more than 3,000 "hits" for the 1972-80 period. This was narrowed to "research or educational grants" within the broader "C&RD" subject, but still produced 872 citations. Therefore, the search was limited to Rural Development R/E aspects and 108 items were printed out.

The senior author then analyzed the 108 items, supplemented by study of the printed version of the Foundation Grants Index.

The search was conducted Aug. 28, 1980; the latest grant listed was made in May, 1980; grants of \$5,000 or more were included.

Findings

Domestic. Fifteen foundations made 41 separate grants to 20 different domestic recipients for RD R/E purposes in the period 1972-80. These grants totalled \$7,982,986. Recipients receiving more than \$1 million over the period were Washington State University, Pullman, WA; Mississippi Action for Community Education, Greenville, MS and Southwest State University Foundation - Southwest State College, Marshall, MN.

Thirty-nine percent of the grants and 70 percent of the funding was provided by two foundations, Kellogg and Ford (see tables).

The average grant was \$197,707^{3/}; the largest single grant was \$958,585, made by Kellogg to Washington State in 1980. Average assistance per year was \$886,998; the average for five even-numbered years (1972, 74, 76, 78, 80) was \$1,466,889 and for four odd-numbered years (1973, 75, 77, 79) was \$162,135. Foundation funding in the five-year 1976-80 period averaged \$1,180,775 per year; for the four-year 1972-75 period it was \$519,778.

A sample of kinds of projects funded: "For matching funds to train indigenous leaders from Southern Appalachia," "to initiate and maintain community development activities in the Mississippi Delta region," "for Appalachian Public Policy Resources Program which provides research and technical aid to groups concerned with issues facing Appalachia," "to provide nonfederal matching money for Senior Opportunities and Services Program" and "for rural community development activities among Mexican Americans in New Mexico."

Foreign. Seven foundations made 70 grants to RD R/E projects in 22 foreign countries during the study period. These grants totalled \$12,913,203. Leading "ultimate recipient" countries^{4/} were Canada, Brazil, Bangladesh, India and Indonesia. Ninety-four percent of the grants and 98 percent of the funding was provided by three foundations: Ford, Rockefeller and Kellogg (see tables).

The average grant was \$184,474; the largest single grant was \$2,250,000, made by Rockefeller to the International Agricultural Development Service, New York, NY in 1976 to assist developing countries.

Average assistance per year was \$1,434,800; there was little difference in average assistance in even- or odd-numbered years or in the periods of 1976-80 and 1972-75.

A sample of kinds of projects funded: "To initiate management skills instruction for RD administrators (in the Dominican Republic)," "to conduct educational programs and provide health and agricultural services to poor rural people (Brazil)," "for development of research design and investigation of RD (Morocco)," "for social science training and research focused on raising incomes of poor farmers in dry northern regions of the country (Nigeria)" and "for research on local indicators of RD (Mexico)."

Footnotes

- 1/ Estimates made by Donald L. Nelson Aug. 27, 1980 in response to a request from the National Agricultural Research and Extension Users Advisory Board (see Rationale section following).
- 2/ The Board was created by the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-113, Title XIV, Sect. 1408), Sept., 1977.
- 3/ Some projects received more than one grant in more than one year.
- 4/ Of the 70 "foreign" grants, nine were made to U.S. recipients and four to the Panafrican Institute for Development, Geneva, Switzerland. In each case, the grant was to be used in a project in a specified country or region other than the United States. For instance, in 1980, Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA received \$7,500 from Ford "for field research on socioeconomic change and rural development in Andhra Pradesh, India."

Table 1. RD R/E Foundation Grants by Recipient, 1972-80

<u>Domestic</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA	3	\$2,015,486
Mississippi Action for Community Education, Greenville, MS	6	1,856,250
Southwest State Univ. Foundation/SW State College, Marshall, MN	2	1,365,917
National Rural Center, Washington, D.C.	3	857,000
Southern Regional Task Force, Atlanta, GA	2	336,672
Home Education Livelihood Program (HELP), Albuquerque, NM	6	310,000
Alliance for Progress, Powellsville, NC	1	300,000
Highlander Research and Education Center, New Market, TN	5	300,000
Alcorn A&M College, Lorman, MS	1	103,740
Associated Migrant Opportunity Services, Indianapolis, IN	1	100,000
10 Others	11	437,921
<u>20</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>7,982,986</u>
<u>Foreign</u>		
Canada	3	1,795,830
Brazil	6	1,702,692
Bangladesh	8	1,603,000
India	7	1,385,800
Indonesia	11	1,341,783*
Cameroon	4	675,000
Colombia	5	613,500
Ethiopia	2	500,000
Thailand	4	187,245
Mexico	5	72,367
12 Others	12	713,132
(3) Unspecified and Africa	3	2,322,854
<u>22</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>12,913,203</u>

*8 different grants totalling \$783,200 were made by Ford in 1975.

Table 2. RD R/E Foundation Grants by Donor, 1972-80

<u>Domestic</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Kellogg	6	\$3,392,220
Ford	10	2,197,500
Rockefeller Bros.	3	857,000
Rockefeller	5	794,590
Mott	4	342,504
Field	4	112,500
9 Others	9	286,672
<u>15</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>7,982,986</u>

Foreign

Ford	46	5,671,366
Rockefeller	12	3,917,379
Kellogg	8	3,293,772
4 Others	4	30,686
<u>7</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>12,913,203</u>

Table 3. RD R/E Foundation Grants, 1972-80

	<u>Domestic</u>		<u>Foreign</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1980	4	1,169,767	5	1,274,377
1979	4	187,270	4	339,600
1978	9	1,922,940	7	946,786
1977	3	155,000	12	1,173,877
1976	9	2,468,899	7	2,580,975
1975	5	306,272	20	2,662,550
1974	5	898,740	6	1,005,245
1973	0	0	5	1,146,500
1972	2	874,098	2	800,000
Unspecified	0	0	2	983,293
	<u>41</u>	<u>7,982,986</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>12,913,203</u>

